

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION
August 27, 2009 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Burbank Traffic Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 275 E. Olive Avenue, on the above date. Joseph Terranova, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Joe Terranova, Chair
Brian Malone, Vice Chair
Barry Gussow
Paul McKenna, Jr.
David Justl
Robert Heins
Rebecca Granite-Johnson

Members Absent: Dennis Hooper, Gregory Bragg

Staff Present: Ken Johnson– Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Karen McMurray– Administrative Analyst II, Public Works
Rabie Rahmani– Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works
David Kriske– Principal Planner, Community Development
Jack Lynch– Deputy Housing & Development Mgr., Community Development
Lt. JJ Puglisi– Traffic Division, Police Department
Melissa Schnitzius– Recording Secretary, Public Works

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Traffic Commission)

A. Public Communication

Ralph Herman, former Traffic Commissioner, addressed the Commission regarding several issues on the agenda.

Mr. Herman felt, regarding Item B- Rancho Horse Signage, that the following streets were too narrow and is dangerous for horse and rider so they should not be encouraged to use them:

- 1.) Mariposa Street
- 2.) Riverside Drive
- 3.) Main Street

Mr. Herman suggested making Glenoaks Boulevard, Victory Boulevard, and San Fernando Boulevard (north of Empire) truck routes regarding Item C- Truck Routes.

Mr. Herman showed concern about what the effect dual left turn lanes, proposed in Item D and Item E, would have on bus stops.

Mr. Herman asked if the staff report for Item F- Evaluation of Traffic Signal Timing was made available to the public.

On Item G, Mr. Herman suggested the use of bulb-out curbs for Magnolia Boulevard crosswalks.

Glen Bergstrom, of House of Hobbies, appealed to the Commission to return the intersections of Alameda Avenue and Victory to the original state. He stated that his business is suffering from the lack of parking due to the dual turn lanes. The other shops are affected by the loss of parking spaces in the area also, and are unhappy with the present change.

B. Commission Member Communication

Mr. McKenna recalled a presentation of a study done showing that a marked crosswalk is not the safest option. In regards to Magnolia Boulevard, he suggested that other options be considered.

Mr. Justl inquired about when the Commission member terms would go to City Council. Mr. Johnson replied that the next available meeting for the item to be added to the Council agenda would be no earlier than late September.

Mr. Justl inquired about when the proposed Large Non-Commercial Vehicle (LNCV) Ordinance will go before City Council. Mr. Johnson replied that the item is scheduled to be on the Council agenda for October 27, 2009.

C. Staff Communication

Mr. Johnson welcomed Paul McKenna back to the Commission from his service in the military.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brian Malone moved, and Barry Gussow seconded, to approve the minutes for the July 23, 2009, meeting. The motion was passed unanimously. Mr. McKenna and Ms. Granite-Johnson abstained. Mr. Justl, Mr. Malone, and Mr. Terranova participated in the discussion.

V. REPORTS

A. Taxi Cab Report– Terre Hirsch

None

B. Rancho Area Horse Signage– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that staff was contacted by the Rancho Area residents asking to improve the signage to increase the safety of horses and riders. Staff intends to conduct a study with the help of the equestrian residents. Mr. Malone, Mr. Justl, Mr. Terranova, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Gussow, and Ms. Granite-Johnson participated in the discussion. Ralph Herman contributed to the discussion as an audience member.

Note and file

C. Burbank Truck Routes– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that the purpose of having truck routes is to allow trucks to drive through the City in compliance with the Burbank Municipal Code, and with the least impact on the City. Burbank currently has one route with several spurs heading out from it. Staff is considering adding more routes. Mr. Gussow, Mr. Justl, Mr. Malone, Mr. McKenna, Lt. Puglisi, and Mr. Terranova participated in the discussion. Ralph Herman contributed to the discussion as an audience member.

Brian Malone moved, and Paul McKenna seconded, to add Glenoaks Boulevard as a truck route. The motion was amended to say to add Glenoaks as a truck route, for study purposes. The motion passed four to three, with Mr. Gussow, Mr. Justl, and Ms. Granite-Johnson opposing.

D. Dual Turn Lanes on Victory Boulevard at Alameda Avenue– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson explained that the dual turn lanes were added to prevent projected traffic issues related to a 15-story building project being built in the Media District. Mr. Kriske explained in detail the environmental impact study performed by the Planning Division. Mr. Malone, Mr. Gussow, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Kriske, Mr. Terranova, Ms. Granite-Johnson, and Mr. Justl participated in the discussion.

Brian Malone moved, and Barry Gussow seconded, to choose Option 2 on the staff report. The motion passed unanimously.

Option 2: Widen Victory Boulevard–Widening Victory Boulevard by six feet on either side of the street will enable two more parking spaces than the original condition, but it would necessitate the removal/relocation of trees and relocation of poles.

E. Dual Turn Lanes on Alameda Avenue at Buena Vista Street– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that adding dual turn lanes on Alameda Avenue will reduce congestion at the intersection. Mr. Justl, Ms. Granite-Johnson, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

Barry Gussow moved, and Rebecca Granite-Johnson seconded, to suggest adding dual left turn lanes only on eastbound Alameda Avenue at Buena Vista Street as staff recommended. The motion also stated that Alameda Avenue should be widened for those dual left turn lanes. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Evaluation of Traffic Signal Timing– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson discussed the report from the signal timing specialists that will be presented to City Council. Staff will be performing a test on a few intersections. Mr. Justl, Mr. Malone, and Mr. McKenna participated in the discussion. Ralph Herman contributed to the discussion as an audience member.

Note and file.

G. Magnolia Park Crosswalks– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that City Council wants to make Burbank more pedestrian friendly. The Magnolia Park Property Based Improvement District (PBID) asked staff to look into adding marked crosswalks in the area as a test case. Mr. Terranova, *Ms. Granite-Johnson*, Mr. Justl, Mr. Malone, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

Note and file.

H. Development at 3619 Magnolia Boulevard– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the property owner obtained approval from the Planning Commission for the use for a restaurant/coffee shop. The restaurant use was grandfathered. Mr. Kriske explained that the Planning Division had a study performed of the worst case scenario. That study showed that the criterion was met for the area. Mr. Kriske, Mr. Justl, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

Note and file.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Traffic Calming (March 08)– Johnson
- Parking of Vehicles containing Banners on Olive Ave. Bridge over Ventura Freeway (April 2009)– Justl
- Medical Transportation (February 2009)– Terranova
- Discussion of Parking in Magnolia Park (March 2009)– Terranova
- Commercial Vehicle Parking Restrictions (July 2008)– Johnson
- Accident and Citation statistics for review (October 2008)– Flad
- Discussion on bike lanes on streets (December 2008)– Terranova
- Street sweeping hours during school dismissal time (June 2009)– Bragg
- *Signal Timing Discussion– Johnson*
- *Status on Truck Routes– Johnson*

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Johnson, Traffic Engineer
KJ: ms